reached during the 4th session of the Indo-Iran Joint Commission held in New Delhi in February, 1987 by which the Iranian side agreed to effect imports from India of items of a value equivalent to 50 per cent of the oil contracted during the period of the oil contract.

(c) This is not expected to have any adverse effect on India's trade and foreign exchange position.

(d) Exports are being promoted independently of the oil contract.

Action taken against the Management of Gopala Towers and Siddharth Hotel

*29. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA:
SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what legal action has been taken against the management of the Gopala Towers and Siddharth Hotel for lapses in the construction of these buildings resulting in loss of life and property on account of fire incidents;

(b) the stage at which these two cases are at present pending in the courts and the reasons for the delay in pursuing these cases vigorously; and

(c) whether as a consequence of outbreak of fire in these buildings, any improvements have been made in the Delhi Fire Service to deal with such situations?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (c) In the case of fire at Gopala Tower, a case under section 336/304-A/201 IPC was registered on the 6th June, 1983 against the proprietor and 4 others. The charge-sheet was submitted to the Court on the 26th September, 1983 and is pending trial.

In respect of fire at Siddhartha Inter-Continental Hotel, a case under sections 304-A/337/338 IPC was registered. A charge-sheet was filed in the Court on the 2nd March, 1987 against the Lobby Manager, Inspector (Security) and the Siddhartha Inter-Continental Hotel Limited. The case is pending trial.

A grant of Rs. 11.83 crores has been sanctioned for the Delhi Fire Service for opening 5 more fire stations and for acquiring modern equipments. The Delhi Fire Service has procured a number of Sophisticated fire equipment especially meant for fire-fighting in high-rise buildings.

Steps to protect the Tamilians living in Sri Lanka

*30. SHRI T. R. BALU:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken in the recent past by the Government of India to protect the lives of Tamilians in Sri Lanka;

(b) what steps have been taken to get the economic blockade of Jaffna lifted by the Sri Lankan Government; and

(c) whether any steps have been taken to stop Sri Lankan military offensive against Tamilians, if so, what are the details hereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) to (c) Government has been continuing its exchanges with the Sri Lanka Government and has conveyed its point of view concerning the effects and implications of steps taken by that Government against Tamils. Presently the military offensive against Tamils has slackened and the economic blockade of Jaffna has been lifted.

Modernisation of Textile Industry

*31. SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have for-